

91-2071
61VB

UNCLASSIFIED

(5) (36)

6/22/78 ACTION COPY

NNNNVV 112ASAS65

RE RUEA

DE RUEAAS 2502 1732055

ZNY CCCCC ZIN

R 222045Z JUN WUI

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO RUENCO/SECSTATE WASHDC 3305

INFO RUESEA/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 3524

RUEADG/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 1433

BT

ASUNCION 2502

TO	ACTINF	TO	ACTINF
AMB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DDO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DCM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DEACT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DEA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
POL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HAS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ECOM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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CONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ADM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ISD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
USIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IBAF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ICRO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CHRON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ACD/C	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

BH 104

EO 11652: XDS-2

TAGS: SHUN PA

SUBJECT: STATUS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS: AMILCAR SANTUCHO AND OTHERS

REFS A) 77ASUNCION 4619 E) GRAHAM/KAY TELCON

1. AMILCAR SANTUCHO: ENSOFF HAS AGAIN ASKED INTERIOR MINISTRY OFFICIAL IF THERE IS ANY TRUTH TO REPORTS CIRCULATING OUTSIDE PARAGUAY THAT AMILCAR SANTUCHO, CURRENTLY IN ASUNCION'S THIRD PRECINCT JAIL, WILL BE TURNED OVER TO ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES. THE OFFICIAL CATEGORICALLY STATED THAT THE COP HAS RECOGNIZED SANTUCHO'S UN-CONFIRMED REFUGEE STATUS AND HAS NO INTENTION WHATSOEVER OF TURNING HIM OVER TO THE ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES. HE SAID THEY KNOW VERY WELL THAT HE WOULD QUICKLY "DISAPPEAR" IF THEY DID TURN HIM OVER AND THE GOP WANTED NO PART OF IT.

2. THE UN HAS ARRANGED FOR SANTUCHO TO TRAVEL TO A THIRD COUNTRY AND THE INTERIOR MINISTRY WOULD LIKE TO SEE THIS HAPPEN. HOWEVER, THE POLICE HAVE SO FAR BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN SLOWING HIS DEPARTURE AS THEY WANT TO KEEP HIM AS THEIR "SHOWPIECE" IN THEIR FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM. SANTUCHO TECHNICALLY IS BEING HELD FOR ENTERING THE COUNTRY WITH FALSE DOCUMENTS. THE POLICE DETAINED SANTUCHO, BELIEVED TO BE AN ARGENTINE ERP LEADER, IN MAY 1976 WHEN HE ALLEGEDLY WAS TRAVELLING TO PERU FOR A MEETING OF THE "JUNTA COORDINATA REVOLUCIONARIA." DEPARTMENT MAY USE THE ABOVE INFORMATION AS IT WISHES, PROVIDING THE SOURCE OF THE INFORMATION IS PROTECTED AND THE INFORMATION REGARDING UN ARRANGEMENTS FOR SANTUCHO IS NOT DIVULGED.

3. THE STATUS OF PERSONS DETAINED IN PLACES OTHER THAN ENBOSCADA IS:

RELEASED - 5

ERITEZ, VICTOR - RELEASED FROM CENTRAL POLICE STATION (DATE UNKNOWN)

ESTECHO, PEDRO - RELEASED FROM INVESTIGATIONS (DATE UNKNOWN)

GRANDEL, DOROTEO - FREE TO LEAVE II INFANTRY DIVISION HEADQUARTERS (DEPARTURE UNCONFIRMED)

JORG, JOSE - RELEASED FROM INVESTIGATIONS

MARECO MEZA, FELIX - IN BRAZIL

CURRENTLY DETAINED - 11

ACOSTA ARANDA, SEVERO - FOURTH PRECINCT (SPOKESMAN OF HUNGER STRIKERS)

BARREIRO, VIRGILIO - THIRD PRECINCT (SPOKESMAN OF HUNGER STRIKERS)

EDGARD GONZALEZ, JOAN FELIX - TACUARE

ERITEZ, GURTECINDO - INVESTIGATIONS

CANESI, JORGE - TACUARE

GABAZZA OLMEC, PEDRO D - INVESTIGATIONS (DETAINED APRIL 16.

REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN SEVERELY TORTURED. PARAGUAYAN

RESIDENT IN ARGENTINA.)

OVANDO, ESCOLASTICO GUILLERMO - CENTRAL POLICE

RODAL, RAFAEL D - INVESTIGATIONS (DETAINED IN MID-WAY.

OPN SUSPECT. FUGITIVE SINCE 1976.)

SALASERRE ARON, CARLOS JOSE - SEVENTH PRECINCT (SPOKESMAN FOR

HUNGER STRIKERS)

SANTUCHO, AMILCAR - THIRD PRECINCT

LOPEZ BOTONAYOT, RODOLFO - INVESTIGATION

D) NOT PREVIOUSLY REPORTED

WHITE

BT
2502

UNCLASSIFIED

81F93
(51/52)

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

() Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: () In Part () In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason